

CITY OF SAN DIEGO AIRPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Meeting of May 8, 2007

Brown Field Airport

Experimental Aircraft Association Hangar

MEMBERS PRESENT: Buzz Fink (Special Expertise), Rick Beach (Special Expertise), Jackie Ander (Serra Mesa Community Planning Group), Buzz Gibbs (Kearny Mesa Planning Group), Kevin O'Donnell (Special Expertise), Kathy Monsour (Clairemont Mesa Community Planning Committee), Chuck McGill (Montgomery Field User Group), J. H. Aldrich (Montgomery Field Aviation Tenant), Scott Hasson (Tierrasanta Community Council), Tom Ricotta (Otay Mesa Planning Group), Allen Kruse (Brown Field User Group),.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Juan Escalante (Brown Field Aviation Tenant), Tom Dray (Montgomery Tower),

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Tussey, Terry Price, Kristin Camper-Wozniak, Phil Miller, Clayton Welch, Christian Anderson, Wayne Reiter.

GUESTS: Jim Moore, Dayton Smith, Bob Osborn, Dennis Collum, R.S. Ryan, R. B. Johnson, Larry Rothrock, Donna Ryan, Stan Bell, Tony Fermelia, Jack Driscoll, Kent Casady, Ralph Redman, Tom Tomlinson, Larry Reeves, Bob Wadell, Richard Sax, Bettie Sax, Pete Sigrist, Galen Backnea, Larry Faast, Jerry Blaskey, Kevin Casson, Lisa Golden, Peter McCracken, Tom Sarvis, Andy Rowell, Glenn Ray, Grant Murray, Chris Punts, Joseph Russo, Fred Christlieb, Robert Clifford, Lydia Kennard, Armand Brattland, Kelly Wiltorff.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 by Chairman Fink, who announced that a quorum was present.

The Chair thanked EAA for providing their facilities to the Committee for a meeting site. Larry Rothrock, President of EAA, was introduced. Mr. Rothrock welcomed everyone and described the functions and activities of EAA. He recognized four ultralight owners who had flown in from Nichols Field. Mr. Rothrock asked for Mike Tussey's assistance in presenting a Certificate of Outstanding Effort and a Builders Patch to AAC member Jim Aldrich.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 10, 2007 were approved with two corrections: Clay Welch said that the amount owed to the City by ORW was \$150,000 but that was not the amount recovered. Jackie Ander said the minutes did not mention the tour of Brown Field offered at 1:30 on May 8, 2007.

3. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Larry Fox of the San Diego Ultralight Association requested that the AAC consider amending the procedure for ultralight access to Brown Field. Current procedures do not recognize that many ultralights will soon be categorized as Light Sport Aircraft. He would like to see them admitted to the airport on a case-by-case basis. Mike Tussey gave Larry his card and asked him to send Mike his request.

Fred Christlieb identified himself as a Field Program Manager for FAA. He noted a recent problem with helicopters flying close to the international border and interfering with flight operations at Rodriguez Airport. He will be implementing an international safety group to address such issues.

4. **DEPUTY DIRECTORS REPORT**

Montgomery Field

Mike Tussey reported that work has begun on the blast pad for Runway 28L and should be completed in the first week of June. The removal of a dip near Taxiway G2 was also part of the contract.

The environmental constraints study for the west side of the airport has begun. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is involved. This study is expected to facilitate the relocation of the Fire/Rescue helicopter operations and Corporate Helicopters.

The vernal pool restoration project is also underway in the area between the eastern segments of Runway 28R and Taxiway H. The project is also evaluating the 17 acres between NAC and Aero Drive.

Brown Field

Phase I of the electrical upgrade starts next week and is expected to take one year to complete at an approximate cost \$900,000. A \$1.6 million grant for Phase II is anticipated next June, and a third phase could be required to complete the restoration.

Phase I of the north side fencing project is complete. City Council approved a change order today to close a gap that exists in the final section in the northwest corner of SDM.

An application has been made for a \$150,000 grant for a Master Plan Update, the total cost of which is estimated to be \$300,000-\$500,000.

Clay Welch of the City Attorneys Office provided an update on the Square One Development negotiations for Montgomery Field. The attorneys for both Square One and the City are in court to decide on how to proceed. The 120 day deadline has passed and negotiations could be terminated.

Mike Tussey reported that the Gibbs Interim Lease has been reviewed by City Attorney staff and is now on the desk of the City Attorney for his review.

Rick Beach asked if there has been communication with Caltrans regarding deferred

maintenance on the airports. Mike Tussey responded that there has been no formal communication except to request matching grants.

5. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business at this meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Fink referred to a request by Gerald Blank and a memo from Council Member Frye regarding the possible necessity of recording each Committee members vote by name on motions. It is the Chair's belief that it is not required, but the Committee may choose to do so. Rick Beach **moved to table the item until a written response is received from the City Attorney's office.** The motion was approved unanimously. The item is tabled.

Rick Beach reported on the RFQ sub-committee activities. He presented the background on the RFQ and described the process being followed. The SDM RFQ closed on Feb 23 and a report to Land use and Housing Committee is due June 13. The project is expected to be initiated in February of 2008. Two companies, Airport Properties, Inc. and Distinctive Projects, Inc have been selected to compete for the right to develop.

The subcommittee recommends that the RFP include minimum standards for aeronautical activities.

There were a number of questions from the audience and discussion regarding the RFP going forward without a Master Plan Update or other long range planning strategy. There were comments regarding a need to accommodate light sport aircraft in the new development. There were comments stating the need for small aircraft hangars. There were also comments that airport users should have more input into this process. Larry Rothrock stated that EAA has conducted one user meeting already and another is scheduled for May 26 at 1:00 p.m. where users will have an opportunity to present their ideas. Tom Ricotta handed out a list of questions posed by the Otay Mesa Planning Group which indicated a preference for a long range planning effort prior to the RFP being issued.

Rick Beach said that the City is committed to the current course of action and a master plan would not be completed before the RFP was issued. Mike Tussey stated that the City wished to demonstrate its commitment to SDM and its concern regarding SDM revenue by inaugurating a project in the near future, rather than waiting the five to eight years contemplated for an airport master plan.

Buzz Gibbs recommends adopting the equivalent of San Diego County's development standards. Gibbs made a **motion: that the RFP include development standards for airport leaseholders and minimum standards for commercial aeronautical activities.** There were nine votes in favor and one abstention (Ricotta).

Tom Ricotta asked for a show of hands of those who would like to see a long range plan for Brown Field. An obvious majority raised their hands.

The next AAC meeting will be a special meeting at a date and time yet to be announced.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m. The next meeting will be held at a date and time yet to be announced.

9. ACTIONS:

Motion (Beach): to table the item (recording of individual votes by name) until a written opinion is received from the City Attorney's office. The motion was approved unanimously. The item is tabled.

Motion (Gibbs): that the RFP include development standards for airport leaseholders and minimum standards for commercial aeronautical activities. There were nine votes in favor and one abstention (Ricotta).

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Price